

WALKING IN BEAR COUNTRY

Your neighborhood is bear country too!

1. **Heed warning signs.**
2. **Keep dogs on leash**, especially near streams.
3. **Make noise.** Reduce your chances of surprising a bear
4. **Avoid berry patches.**
5. **Move away.** If a bear is watching you, you are disturbing it.

IF YOU MEET A BEAR STAY CALM!

1. **NEVER RUN.** Running can make a bear chase you.
2. **Keep your distance.** Back slowly away facing the bear. Avoid direct eye contact. Black bears rarely attack unless they feel threatened or provoked.
3. **Slowly and calmly leave the area.** Talk aloud so the bear will become aware of you.
4. Be extra careful around a **female with cubs**. Never approach a cub.
5. **NEVER throw food** to distract a bear. This teaches a bear to approach people for food.
6. **Fight back if attacked.** Black bears have been driven away when people fight with rocks, sticks, binoculars, or even bare hands.
7. **Call the Bear Hotline 720 564 2020** and report your sighting or encounter. This helps us keep both you and the bear safe. **Call 911 if it's an emergency.**

IF YOU SEE A BEAR IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

1. **Stay Calm** – If the bear finds no food, it will usually leave.
2. **Stay Away** – bears only attack when they feel threatened.
3. **Warn others** – Bring kids and pets indoors. Remind others to keep their distance.
4. **Scare That Bear** – Make sure the bear has a clear escape path. Make lots of noise, turn on lights, bang pots. Don't let the bear become comfortable around your home.
5. **Remove attractants** – After the bear has left, make sure your home is bear proof.
6. **When to Call for Help** – call 911 only if the bear is threatening human safety, pets or destroying property.



Report sightings and encounters to the Bear Hotline, 720 564 2020.



Be Aware!

Bears in Your Backyard



**Stay Safe
and Keep Bears Away**

STAY SAFE!

BEAR PROOF YOUR BACKYARD

1. **Keep garbage indoors overnight** until morning trash pick up, or use a bear-proof garbage can.
2. **Feed pets inside** and store pet food indoors.
3. **Lock Up Grills.** Burn barbecues to clean them immediately after use and store indoors.
4. **Only Feed Birds in Winter** when they need it and when bears sleep. Bears love bird seed and hummingbird feeders. You can also string feeders high out of reach on a cable.
5. **Never store any food outside.** Bears will tear open locked freezers.
6. **Keep a clean car.** Never leave food, trash, pet food or coolers in your car. Bears will tear open doors and break windshields.
7. **Keep bears out of your house.** Lock doors and windows, especially at night.
8. **Fruit-bearing trees attract bears.** Harvest fruit and vegetables as they ripen. Pick up fallen fruit from the ground. Keep your lawn mowed and free of flowering dandelions and clover.
9. **Compost:** use a 2:1 dry:wet ratio.
10. **Educate your Neighbors.** If you follow these steps but neighbors don't, bears will still come to your backyard.

Once a bear finds food,
it will come back for more.



A FED BEAR IS A DEAD BEAR
People create problem bears.

By keeping bears out of your backyard, you help them live longer. Bears that become accustomed to people usually must be put down to keep you safe.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:



City of Boulder Open Space
& Mountain Parks
Bear Hotline 720-564-2020



Colorado Division of Wildlife
303-297-1192



Boulder County Parks & Open Space
303-516-9364



City of Boulder Parks and Recreation
303-413-7200



City of Boulder Animal Control
303-442-4030 Ext. 640

Is **THIS** worth a
\$1,000 fine??!!



Uncontained trash is against the law.

It attracts bears, putting both YOU and the bear at risk.

GARBAGE KILLS BEARS



Bird feeders and hummingbird feeders also lure bears to your yard.